



\$4.99
US\$5.00 CAN

BATMAN: Holy Terror

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ROBINSON: JULY TIERBORN

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DC Comics Inc.
12345 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020
A division of Warner Bros. Inc.
A Time Warner Company
Printed in Canada

*Batman created by Bob Kane
Publication design by Robbie Bruckman*

A dramatic landscape painting of a rocky coastline. On the left, a waterfall cascades down a steep, craggy cliff. In the center, a tall, jagged sea stack rises from the water. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds. The overall tone is moody and atmospheric.

ELSEWHERE

IN DISORDER

LETTERS ARE TAKEN

FROM THEIR USUAL SETTING

AND PUT INTO

STRANGE TIMES AND PLACES—

SOME THAT HAVE EXISTED

OR MIGHT HAVE EXISTED

AND OTHERS THAT COULDN'T EXIST

OR SHOULDN'T EXIST

THE RESULT IS STORIES

THAT MAKE CHARACTERS WHO

ARE AS FAMILIAR AS YESTERDAY

SEEM AS FRESH

AS TOMORROW



BATMAN: Holy Terror



Alan Brennert
writer

Norm Breyfogle
artist

Lovera Kindzierski
colorist

Bill Oakley
letterer

special thanks to
Kevin Breyfogle

Salmon Chase,
twenty years ago

Throughout the American Commonwealth,
September 2nd is celebrated as the most
sacred of days, sacred only to the birth
of Christ himself

On this day, in the Year of Our
Lord 1688, the great Lord
Protector Oliver Cromwell refused
by an act of Providence, from
the male- which had threatened
to close him, and continued his
reign for another decade.

Every schoolchild goes thrills
this day, knowing that but
for this, America -- and England
before it -- would not have
become what it is today.

A continent nation
forged and tempered
under the subjugation
and mercy of 1800.





BUTCHER LEFT THE PARENTS TO DIE. LEFT THE SHOW TO WATCH ANY I D. I

WALLET'S DONE -- NO? THE WIFE'S NECKLACE HE STRIPPED THE BODIES CLEAN

EXCEPT FOR THIS

"FOR THOMAS BOWING, IN DISCO- AFTER HIS SERVICE TO GOD AND COUNTRY"

WILLIAM BOWING'S PERSONAL PHOTO- LIAISON TO THE POPE COUNCIL?

WELL, THAT PUTS A WHOLE NEW LIGHT ON THINGS, DOESN'T IT? A LOT OF REPTITION, NAME? ASSASSINATION?

NIGHT EXPLAIN HOW THE "MURDER" MIGHT HAVE IN-KARAT GOLD MELTED DOWN IT SHOULD BEING IN AT LEAST THREE HUNDRED CROWNS

BRUCE?
THAT IS YOUR NAME? BRUCE?

I'M JIM. JIM GORDON. I'M AN ENGLISHMAN

INSIGHTFUL. HAVE TO ASK QUESTIONS EVEN WHEN THEY DON'T WANT TO. BRUCE. EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T WANT TO ASK THEM. I'M SORRY

DID YOU SEE THE MAN WHO DID THIS? DO YOU BRUCE KNOW WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE?



YES, I'LL SOLVE THE REAL PROBLEM

WILL BE IN FORGETTING



JOSEPH SHALL ONE
FOUR, LOVED BROTHER,
SEVEN TIMES IN CON-
FESSY. THEN, JUST ONE
MORTAL AGO...



A PROFESSIONAL
THEP WHO PASSED
UP A GOLD TESTAMENT
AS THOUGH NO ONE
WOULD KNOW HIM... AS
THOUGH HE TOOK
THOUGH WHAT HE WAS
INSTRUCTED TO

THEN, NO
BROTHER, DO I
I'D HAD
DISCOVERED HIS
DEAD, KILLED
IN A PRISON
QUARREL, WITH
ANOTHER
INMATE.

GOOD
THINGS
WOULDN'T YOU
SAY, LORD
COMMISSIONER?



CHILDREN, CUT
DOWN BY BRASSER
FIRE IN A BARRACK-
WARD... DELEGATE
BROTHERS STABBED
HIMSELF COMING
HOME WITH THE
PROCESSES...

RRRRR

SENATE-LESS
TRAGIC
RANDOM
MURDERER
HE CAN'T
SAVE THEM ALL,
BROTHER.



YOU'RE A
FATHER-SON-DA
AREN'T YOU,
JAMES? I MORE
THAN MOST, YOU
CAN APPRECIATE
THE TERRIBLE OF
THIS CASE. I
UNDERSTAND
THAT, BUT YOU
CAN'T LET IT
DRAIN YOUR
FIDELITY.

RRRRR



HE HAD ASSERTED
ON ASSAULT OF JAMES-
NES, YES, I'M FAMILIAR
WITH THE CASE.

HOW DO YOU
PROVE, HE
KILLED THESE TWO
PEOPLE WHEN HE'D
BEEN IN CONFESSION
FOR THE PAST
THIRTY YEARS?

YOU
TELL
ME.

I'D ASK
BROTHER, THAT AS
A GREEN BROTHER
ONLY RECENTLY
TRANSFERRED FROM
NEW AMSTERDAM...
YOU'RE PERHAPS A
BIT TOO OVER-
EAGER THAT I MIGHT
BE PREPARED TO
DISCLOSE THE
TEALOUS FACTS
AT THIS
TIME.

TWO
PEOPLE WERE
KILLED--

PEOPLE
ARE KILLED
EVERY DAY,
BROTHER.
MAYBE YOU
KNOW THAT



TAKE THE AFTERNOON
OFF, GO HOME, COUNT
YOUR BLESSINGS. BE
GRATEFUL FOR THE SAFETY
OF YOUR OWN FAMILY.

BEY HELLO TO
BARRARD, ISN'T
IT? - FOR ME.

YES,
SIR.

I'LL DO
THAT.

GOTHAM TOWNE
-- TODAY!

VICTORIA
TALKS WITH
HERBIEBARK

NEWS

TOPPING THE AGENDA--GOOD
NEWS FROM THE FRONT. RESISTANCE
FORCES IN BOGOTA APPEAR READY TO
CONCEDE DEFEAT TO COMMONWEALTH
FORCES. GENERAL MORTON'S CAVALRY
BATTALION HAS MARCHED TRIUMPHANT
AT 1800 BUENOS AIRES, AND
BRITISH PICTURES JORGE ARANGO
IS REPORTED TO HAVE
COMMITTED SUICIDE...

WITH THE FALL LAST MONTH
OF THE CORRUPT HEATHEN
REIGN IN FRENCH GUIANA, THIS
LEAVES ONLY THE TINY STATE OF
PARU BETWEEN THE COMMON-
WEALTH AND ITS ALLEGED
DESTINY IN THIS HEREMESSE

CLOSER TO HOME,
MILLIONAIRE INDUSTRIALIST
OLIVER QUINN, TRIED AND
CONVICTED OF SEDITION FOR
HIS COVERT SUPPORT OF SUCH
UNDERSTANDING TOWNS
FORWARDERS AS ISAAC
SWINEY, WAS EXECUTED
THIS MORNING

EUROPE'S DYNAMIC
RESTORING IN SUPPORT OF
THE FALLING GOVERNMENT OF
BOLIVIA HAS NOT RETICED TO
WITH THE COMMONWEALTH'S
FREEDOM OF EDUCATION
PROGRAMS IN THAT
COUNTRY

SOURCES CONFIRM
THAT QUINN
REPEATED IN THE
FINAL MOMENTS
BEFORE DEATH

IN PLYMOUTH
PARLIAMENT CONSIDERED
LANDMARK LEGISLATION
THAT WOULD ALTER THE
BALANCE OF SUPPLY
AND THE FIRST TIME
IN FIFTY YEARS

LORD PROTECTOR
WALLFORD ENDORSED
THE PROPOSAL TODAY
WHILE PREPARING FOR
TOWNSHEND'S BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION IN
CROMWELL SQUARE

UNDER THE
PROPOSED LAW
LANDHOLDERS WOULD
MAINTAIN THEIR
CURRENT PLURAL
VOTE, BUT FOR THE
FIRST TIME WOMEN
WOULD BE ELIGIBLE ON
THE SAME BASIS AS
MEN-- LANDHOLDING
MEN, EACH HAVING
A SINGLE VOTE

NON-WHITES
WOULD MOVE UP
FROM THEIR CURRENT
HALF VOTE TO ONE
DETERMINED BY THEIR
INDIVIDUAL ECONOMIC
STATUS, BUT NOT
TO EXCEED TWO

THAT'S THE NEWS AT
THIS HOUR-- MORE LATER
ON RADIO AND YOUR LOCAL
STATION. I'M HERBIEBARK
TALK-200 BLESS



I CAN STILL HEAR MYSELF
PLANNING MEALS WITH THE
TEAM. MY FATHER BOUGHT
ME FOR MY BIRTH BIRTHDAY.
CAN STILL HEAR THE SIZZLE
OF MEAT ON TRUCKS. THE
THIN SOUND OF A VAGRANT
STEAM WHISTLE.

I CAN HEAR MYSELF
DANCING TO MYSELF
AS THE COONS. I
CAN STILL SMELL THE
TART CHERRY FLAVOR
OF MY FATHER'S PIPE
TOBACCO. THE OVER-
THE-HILL SCENT OF MY MOTHER'S
PERFUME.

I HEAR, I
TASTE,
TOO MUCH.

MASTERS
DEUCEY

THE ALCOVE
WAS THE LAST OF
IT. I BELIEVE

IT FEELS
RATHER... GOOD
TO THINK OF MY
FURNITURE... MY
BELONGINGS
ELSEWHERE

I KNOW

AS GOOD AS
IT WAS GONE TO
ME. THINKING OF
YOU. ELSEWHERE

ALRED THE
OFFICE IS STILL
GOOD. I'M NOT
CARRYING ALL MY
PROPERTY TO
THE STATE. I'LL
STILL KEEP THE
B STATE. YOU
CAN STAY HERE.
AS LONG AS
YOU WANT

NO. NO.
THANK YOU.
MASTERS DEUCEY.
SAY. LIVING
HERE. LOVE.
WOULD BE

A GENTLEMAN'S
GENTLEMAN MAKES A
BOUT OF - CONTRACT.
WITH THE HOUSE HE SERVED
HE AGREED TO BEHOLD
A HOME FOR HIS FAMILY
AND IT IS TURN. ADDRESS
TO BE A HOME FOR
HIM

THE FAMILY
MOVES ON. AND
THE CONTRACT
ENDED TO BEHOLD
BEHOLD WOULD
BE. PRESUMPTUOUS



THE HOUSE NEVER MADE THE HOME, ALFRED NOW DID.

IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS... BUT NONE WILL EVER MEAN MORE TO ME THAN THE ONE YOU MADE FOR ME.

MASTED BRUCE... ARE YOU?

ARE YOU CERTAIN THIS IS WHAT YOU WANT?



YES, I AM.

YOU REMEMBER THE NIGHTS I'D WAKE CRYING, FORTY MONTHS AFTERWARD? THE TIMES YOU STRECH UP WITH ME, WATCHING TV, MAKING POPCORN, HELPING TO HOLD THE CHAIR AT DART?

WELL, I'M NOT AFRAID OF THE DARK ANYMORE ALFRED. I'VE FOUND PEACE. GOD'S GIVEN ME PEACE. I WISH I COULD MAKE YOU FEEL THAT AS I DO. I WISH I COULD MAKE YOU BELIEVE IT.



I WANT NOTHING MORE IN THIS LIFE THAN TO BELIEVE IT.

GOODBYE, MASTED BRUCE.



GOODBYE, MY OLD FRIEND.

I'VE SAID YOU AND LEFT YOU.

I MADE A CONTRACT WITH YOUR HOUSE, MYSELF, TO STAY ONLY AS LONG AS I NEEDED TO NOW I NEEDED THE MEMORIES, NEEDED THE SANCTUARY.



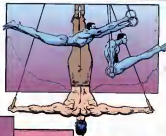
I NEED THEM NO LONGER MY SANCTUARY, MY REFUGE, LIKE ELSEWHERE... AND EVERYWHERE.

FOR YEARS, THIS WAS
A HOUSE, TOO. AND
EVER THOUGH THE
FLOORBOARD WOULD
WARRANTEE THE
WITH A DEAD END...

... I CAN'T
REQUEST A SLIGHT
GOODBYE TO
THE OLD
ABANDONED
DREAM...

... BECAUSE
ENJOYING
A NEW ONE

10 F



KLAK



EXCELLENT
LOST MORE OF
YOUR FORM.
I SEE.





BUT THAT--
THAT'S ABSURD!
MY FATHER WAS
PERSONNEL INTER-
VIEWED TO THE PRYV
COUNCIL! WHY
WOULD THE GOVERN-
MENT WANT TO
KILL HIM?!

IN ALL
LONDON, IT
WAS THE PRYV
COUNCIL, ITSELF
THAT ORIGINATED
HIS DEATH.

YOU ONLY KNOW
PART OF WHAT YOUR
PARENTS WERE, BRUCE.
YOU ONLY KNEW THE LOCAL
STATE CITIZENS-- NOT THE
RADICAL ANTI-SEMITES WHO
IN ARGENTINA, WERE TRIED
AND CONFINED FOR
COUNTER-ESPIONAGE-
TYPE ACTIVITIES.

YOU SEE, THEY WERE
TOO HIGH UP IN THE ANGEL
ELITE TO BE PUT ON PUBLIC
TRIAL-- THE STATE DOESN'T
WANT TO ADMIT THAT SUCH
CITIZENS OF SUCH HIGH RANK
COULD BE TREASONERS.



SO IT HAD TO BE A
CONVERT ENOUGH EXECU-
TION TO SEEM LIKE A
TRAGIC ACCIDENT-- YET
CLEAR ENOUGH TO THEIR
FELLOW ANTI-SEMITES,
TO BECOME AN
EFFECTIVE DETERRENT.

IT'S ALL ON
THIS DISK.



I... I COULDN'T LET YOU
GO AND BECOME A PART
OF THE VERY SYSTEM THAT
KILLED YOUR PARENTS.
DON'T YOU SEE? I HAD TO--

HAD TO WHAT?
TELL ME THAT EVERY-
THING I BELIEVE
EVERYTHING I LOVE,
EVERYTHING THAT
MAKES SENSE AND
PEACE OF MY LIFE
IS A LIE? HAD TO
TELL ME THAT?



BRUCE YOU! DAMN
YOUR GOOD INTER-
ESTS. DAMN YOUR
"CONSCIENCE"!

YOU DIDN'T DO THIS FOR
ME-- YOU DID IT FOR YOUR-
SELF! BECAUSE IT EASED
THE WEIGHT ON YOUR CON-
SCIENCE! BECAUSE I
ALWAYS KNOW GUILT!

NOW MANY OTHER
EXECUTIONS HAVE YOU WASHED
UP, LORD COMMISSIONER? NOW
MANY OTHER ANTI-SEMITES,
NOW MUCH BLOOD DO YOU
HAVE OTHER FAMILIES
DO YOU HAVE ON YOUR
HANDS?!



TOO MANY.

I SUPPOSE I'D
HOPE-- THAT YOU
COULD BECOME THE KIND
OF MAN I WANTED TO BE
THE KIND OF MAN I STOPPED
BEING, THE NIGHT YOUR
PARENTS WERE KILLED.

BUT ALL I'VE
REALLY SUCCEEDED IN
DOING-- IS IN PUTTING A
BURDEN OF PAIN FROM
ONE HEART TO
ANOTHER.

I'M SORRY,
BRUCE.

"MARCH 2nd: The first attempt to smuggle out another prisoner in the state's behavior modification program. But's marks on his forehead, which he was hooked up to brain-voltage electrodes; concussion; broken bones; and, unfortunately, PNEUMONIC INFLUENZA.



"Patient appears to have been subject to attempts to alter his sexual orientation, with limited success.

"Months, says at least it's progress. Is it dying along with the few million OTHER homosexuals who it is exterminating each year.



"I'm not so sure.

"APRIL 5th. Caucasian woman, 33, born South, pregnant, drunk, told a series of lies planned in an attempt to abort her fetus. Drugged mother killed, but the fetus had already reached her BLOODSTREAM.



"We lost her.

"JUNE 2nd. More FORTH victims, mostly prostitutes subjected to AROUSAL THERAPY. One poor woman, just telling out her sexual desires with a steel knife -- blood shed and got to her in time.



"Sweet Jesus -- there are so many of them, so poor of us. What can we do? How MUCH can we do?



"NOVEMBER 3rd. Inquest's found and raised the clinic today. Months and if just missed BEING done by half an hour.

"Thousands to go. Two for the rest of us.



"WHAT CAN WE DO? WE START OVER."

"OVER AND OVER, PERHAPS. UNTIL, INEVITABLY, OUR LUCK RUNS OUT."

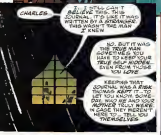


"YOU REALLY KNOW NOTHING OF THE LORD? BECAUSE YOUR LITTLE MIGHTY FRIEND THE LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER?"

"NOTHING. I FOUND THIS JOURNAL IN THE BOWTIE. IT WAS FORWARDS FOR STORAGE. OF COURSE BY THEN I HAD AN IDEA OF WHAT TO LOOK FOR."

"OR MEMBER—"

"CHARLES."



"CHARLES."

"I... I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. THIS JOURNAL. IT'S LIKE IT WAS WRITTEN BY A STRANGER. THIS WASN'T THE MAN I KNEW."

"NO. BUT IT WAS THE TRUE MAN. SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO KEEP YOUR TRUE SELF AWAY, EVEN FROM THOSE YOU LOVE."

"KEEPING THAT JOURNAL WAS A BIG THING. WANT IT... TO LET YOU KNOW SOME ONE WHO BE AND YOUR MOTHER TELL ME. IN CASE THEY WEREN'T HERE TO TELL YOU THEMSELVES."

"DARN IT! I SPENT FIVE YEARS FINDING SOME KIND OF PEACE AND NOW—"

"NOW I FIND OUT THAT THE GOD I'VE THOUGHT I LOVED IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MY PARENTS' DEATHS."

"NO. NOT GOD. GOD'S SELF-APPOINTED INTERPRETERS."



SLAM



"THE HOLY ELITE CELEBRATE CORNWALL'S 50th ANNIVERSARY TOMORROW. BUT THE TRUTH IS HE'D BE APPALLED AT WHAT THEY'VE MADE OF HIS REFORMATION."

"AND CHURCH WAS TOLERANT KING. THE ANTIPODEAN OF THIS. AND YET THEY TRUST HIM. NOBODY. AND THE BLOOD OF THE ANGEL. TO CLIMB THEIR CONFESSION. AS THOUGHTS HAVE DONE THROUGHOUT HISTORY."

"THAT DOESN'T MEAN THE BLOOD ISN'T TRUE... OR THAT YOUR GOD ISN'T JUST."

"I FELT SO ANGRY. FOR SO LONG. AND THEN I FOUND HIM. AND THE ANGER WENT AWAY. NOW IT'S BACK... WORSE THAN EVER."

"BEFORE IT WAS JUST A STREET FIERCE HE'D ESCAPED THE LAW. BUT I COULD CORRUPT MYSELF. HE WOULDN'T ESCAPE GOD'S JUDGMENT. BUT NOW."

"NOW I KNOW SOMEONE IS OUT THERE. SOMEONE WHO CONSIDERS MY PARENTS' DEATHS. AND GOD'S JUDGMENT WON'T ESCAPE ANYMORE. I WANT HIM TO SUPPLY MY JUDGMENT."



I KNOW YOUR
ANGER WELL... I FELT
IT MYSELF WHEN
SOMEONE... A STATE
AGENT... THREW ACID
IN MY EYES. AFTER
I STARTED MY WORK
WITH THE UNDER-
GROUND.

I KNEW IT
WASN'T OVER THE
YEARS. AN COMRADE
AFTER COMRADE
WAS KILLED OR WAS
MURDERED...

ROD ALAN SCOTT, WHO
TRIED TO BREAK THE STATE'S
STRANGLEHOLD ON COMMUNI-
CATIONS BY STARTING AN
UNDERGROUND RADIO
NETWORK.

CARTER AND SHERA
WHO USED THEIR POS-
SESSIONS AS ARCHAEOL-
OGISTS TO BRUSHLE WEA-
PONS INTO THE COUNTRY.
SEX TILES, BECAUSE MAN
UNLEASHES DESIRE FOR
OUR GLING IN HIS
PHARMACEUTICAL
PLANT.

ALL CAUGHT
ALL EXECUTED.
SILENTLY OR
COVERTLY ALL
FRIENDS.

I DON'T WANT
TO FIGHT THE STATE
— I JUST WANT TO
ARRANGE MY PARENTS.
HOW DO I FIND THE
MEN WHO CONDEMNED
THEY? HOW DO I
SERVE JUSTICE?

BRUCE,
YOU

YOU CAN'T.

IT WAS DIFFERENT
IN MY TIME. THERE WAS A
HATE IN EUROPE. THE
COMMONWEALTH WAS KEPT
BUSY PROTECTING ENGLAND
AT HOME. THE GOVERNMENT
WAS DISTRACTED ENOUGH
SO THE UNDERGROUND
COULD MAKE SOME
SMALL GAINS.

BUT NOT
NOW. THERE ARE
NO UNDERGROUND
CLUBS. ANYMORE.
NO RESISTANCE
FIGHTERS. AFTER
THE WAR, THE STATE
JUST STEPPED IN
AND... DEFEATED US.

BUT THERE
JUST BE SOME
BODY WITH THE
POWER TO CONQUER
THEM...

NO, NO
ONE. ON THERE
ARE RUINERS—
LEGIONS ABOUT
SOMEONE HELD
CAPTIVE IN
CATHEDRAL
WITH POWER
ENOUGH TO
MURDER THE
STATE... SOME
ONE CALLED
THE GREEN
MAN.

BUT LEGEND
IS ALL IT IS.
BROKEN PIECES
OF MYTH DESIGNED
TO GIVE SOME
AIDING MYSTIC
MORE... TO MAKE
MATE US.

I KNOW YOUR
ANGER. BELIEVE ME—
I KNOW IT TOO WELL.
BUT IT'S POINTLESS.

GO BACK TO
YOUR LIFE, BRUCE.
GET WHAT HAPPINESS
YOU CAN FROM IT.
YOU CAN'T FIGHT THEM
— YOU CAN'T BEAT
THEM. IF YOU
TRY...

YOU JUST
LOVE EVERYTHING
YOU'VE EVER
LOVED.





BEFORE ALMIGHTY
GOD, TO WHOM YOU MUST
GIVE ACCOUNT, AND IN THE
PRESENCE OF THIS CONGREGATION, I ASK: WILL YOU
ASSUME THE OFFICE, BELIEV-
ING THAT THE CHURCH'S CALL
IS GOD'S CALL TO THE MINIS-
TERY OF WORD AND
SACRAMENT?

I WILL
AND I ASK
GOD TO HELP
ME



ETERNAL GOD,
THROUGH YOUR SON,
JESUS CHRIST, POUR
OUT YOUR HOLY SPIRIT
UPON THIS ORDINAND
AND FILL HIM WITH THE
GIFTS OF GRACE...

I CAREFULLY LISTEN TO THE
BISHOP'S WORDS. I
HEAR ONLY THE VOICE
WHICH HE, OLDER AND
STRONGER THAN I AM,



ALMIGHTY AND MERCIFUL GOD,
YOU INSTITUTED THE OFFICE OF
THE HOLY MINISTRY SO THAT THE
EVANGELIC AND PROPHETIC WORD
MIGHT BE HEARD THROUGHOUT
THE AGES.

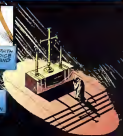
GRANT THAT THESE
ANTHONY AND NOW TO BE
ORDAINED, MAY EXERCISE HIS
MINISTRY FAITH-
FULLY IN THE
POWER OF YOUR SPIRIT, THROUGH
YOUR SON, JESUS
CHRIST OUR LORD.

IT IS HIS
VOICE -- NOT MY OWN -- WHICH NOW
SPEAKS AGAIN TO ME AND GUIDES ME.



I AM AT PEACE NOW
I KNOW, AT LAST,
WHAT I MUST DO.

I COULD NOT TAKE THIS PATH
IF I DID NOT HEAR HIS VOICE
IN MY HEART. SEE AND HEAR
HE WHO ORDAINS.



AFTERWARD, I STAND READY
TO GO ON, TO GIVE THANKS TO MY
LORD FOR THE LIGHT HE HAS
SHED ON THE PATH I HAVE CHOSEN.

AND THEN I ENDSACK
UPON THAT PATH



I'VE BEEN A GOOD CAPTAIN
EVER SINCE I ENTERED A
MURDER TRIAL. HE'S A
GOOD MAN, AN
HONORABLE MAN

I FEEL A
MOMENTARY
TWINGE OF
CONSCIENCE
THAT
ENTERED THE
PASSAGE



ONLY THREE OF THE MEMBERS
OF THE JURY COULD SEE THE
REAR OF MY PARENTS' DEATHS
ARE STILL ALIVE



NO MATTER
WHAT I DO

I USED TO PLAY IN THIS CAVE, AS
A CHILD, AROUND A TUNNEL, NOT
FAR FROM THE HOUSE--DIDN'T
EVEN TELL MY PARENTS ABOUT IT
IT WAS MY SECRET PLACE

AND SO IT
SHALL BE
AGAIN



ALBERT TOLD ME
ABOUT THIS WHEN I
WAS A BOY, ABOUT
HOW MY FATHER
PLAYED THE ROLE OF
DEMON IN A CHILDREN
SESSION BUT WHEN HE
WAS A YOUNG MAN
ABOUT MY AGE



I'D FORGOTTEN ALL
ABOUT IT UNTIL I
Saw ACROSS IT AGAIN
WHILE PACKING UP
THE HOUSE



I THINK
FATHER
WOULD
APPROVE

"BROWN, LEMUEL. LARD HIGH MARRIAGES, FIRST APPELLATE COURT, THREE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-NINE CYCLE THROUGH THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY-ONE."

"BY THE REQUEST OF LARD PROCTOR WOLLASTON AND BY THE ORDER OF ONE, ACCORDING TO PRIME COUNCIL, THREE HUNDRED AND FORTY-SECOND CYCLE."

"SERVED ONE AND COUNTRY IN SAME CAPACITY UNTIL THE THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTH CYCLE; PUNISHED ONE YEAR LATER."

"CURRENTLY RESIDES AT 4471 PARK ROW, PH. 23-765-87."

"PRESS ENTER FOR FURTHER INFORMATION."

SKRIIIPPI!

EYAAHHH!

EXPECTING YOU?

GOD
EXPECTED TO YOU,
LEMUEL.

DEAD GOD?
WHAT???

YOU'VE
BEEN
EXPECTING ME
FOR SOME
TIME, I
IMAGINE.

WHY, YES,
LEMUEL. IS IT NOT
WRITTEN, 'HE NOT
DECEIVED. GOD IS
NOT ACCUSED.' FOR
WHATSOEVER I HEAR
SOWTH, 'HEAT SHALL
BE ALSO REAP'."

DON'T QUOTE
SOMEONE TO
ME, YOU—

AGGG!

"WE THOUGHT
SMITH WAS
SO THAT HE
SHOULD
BE SURELY
PUT TO
DEATH."

"BUT HIS WORDS
WAS A DECISION. YOU
LIVED BY THEM FOR
YEARS. CAN YOU TRULY
SAY YOU NEVER SUS-
PECTED YOU MIGHT
DIE BY THEM?"

DO YOU
REMEMBER THEIR
NAMES, MAGISTRATE?
ANY OF THEM? HALL,
TYLER, SCOTT,
BROWN?

HENNE? YES!
I ONLY KNOW I
COULD TAKE CREDIT
FOR HIS DEATH!

HIS WAS THE
GREATEST TREASON!
OUR OWN PHYSICIAN
& FRIEND HE TRUSTED
WITH OUR LIVES— WHO
USED THAT TRUST
AGAINST US!

"EYE FOR
EYE, TOOTH
FOR TOOTH,
HAND FOR
HAND, FOOT
FOR FOOT."

YOU TOOK
AWAY AN EYE IN
YOUR DAY. DID YOU
NOT, LAWRENCE? I
WANT A HAND.
I WANT A LIFE.

I WOULD BE
WOFFED HIS EXECU-
TION AT A MOMENT,
BUT THE PLEASURE
WAS DENIED US.
HIS DEATH TOO
SENSITIVE. THE
STAR CHAMBER
DECIDED FOR
HIM. DAWN
HIM!

YES. I
REMEMBER THEM!
BUT NONE. ALL OF
THEM. I REMEMBER
I DECIDED NOTHING.
I WOULD DO IT ALL
AGAIN.

GO AHEAD.
KILL ME IF YOU
WANT. BUT I'LL
NOT REGRET
THAT WHICH I
KNOW IN MY
HEART WAS
RIGHT.

STAR
CHAMBER?

DEFINITE. GORDON WAS WRONG. THE
OLD MAN WAS NOT AS AS MAGISTRATE...
BUT HE'S NOT GUILTY OF THE CRIME
I SOUGHT TO AVENGE.

LET NOW CAN I
LET HIM LIVE
WHEN HE'S
DEEN HE
NEEDS ME
TALK ABOUT THE
MAYHEM?

UNLESS, OF COURSE,

HIS TESTIMONY
WAS CHALLENGED
GORDON.

LOOKS LIKE THE
IT'S THE MARIO'S
RIGHT OUT

A CALL TO THE HOUSE-
HOLD'S BOSS BRUCE ON
SHOULD HAVE
LEVELLED ENTERTAINED
FOR SOME TIME

BUT LUCK IS THE
ONLY THING THAT
KEPT ME FROM
FLIPPING A GENUINE
MISTAKE

TLNK

I LET MY EMO-
TIONS ACCUMULATE
MY JUDGEMENT
DIDN'T THINK
THINGS THROUGH
FULLY

PAF

I DON'T THINK THAT
MISTAKE AGAIN IN
LIFE MAY OCCUR
ON IT NEXT TIME

THE COURT OF ARMS CHANGED
THEIR IN CATHEDRAL IT IS
BUILT MAINTAINED THEIR
BUILT IT IS DONE TO WORK IN
BUILT CAPTAIN'S ADVISING-
TRATIVE OFFICES

NO, I WON'T
MAKE THAT
MISTAKE
AGAIN.



AFTERNOON, SUMMER

AFTERNOON, WINTER

KIND OF LATE IN THE DAY, I'M NOT SURE BISHOP CASPARI'S STILL IN, HE HAS AN EVENING SERVICE TONIGHT

YES, I KNOW I'LL BE TAKING OVER THE ROOMS HERE PARISH FROM BISHOP CASPARI -- I NEED TO CONSULT THE DEACON ADVANCE BEFORE I START

DON'T WAIT UP FOR ME, I COULD BE A LONG NIGHT.

WELL, IF YOU NEED ANYTHING, SEN- SEN, GIVE ME A CALL.



IT WAS PARTLY TRUE I AM SUPPOSED TO TAKE OVER THE PARISH SIX MONTHS AGO, I WOULD HAVE BEEN DELICIOUSLY HAPPY AT THE PROSPECT, NOW I'M TERRIFIED

"FOR IF A MAN KNOWS HOW TO RULE HIS OWN HOUSE, HOW SHALL HE TAKE CARE OF THE CHURCH OF GOD?"



BLAST, STAR CHAMBER IS IN ONE OF THE SUBTERRANEAN LEVELS-- THE HIGHEST CLASS, AND ONE, TO BOOT, MY ACCESS CODE WON'T GET ME THERE.



ACCESS CODE, ACCESS CODE, CASPARI, JUDSON

PLEASE ENTER, YOUR ENTRANCE

ANOTHER DETAIL OF YOUR TRUST, JUDSON, IT GETS WORSE EVERY TIME, DOESN'T IT?



DEAR GOD, I WANT THIS OVER WITH, I WANT TO FIND THE MAN WHO ORDERED MY FATHER'S DEATH, AND BE DONE WITH IT

I WANT MY OLD LIFE BACK. LET SOMEONE ELSE FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT. ALL I WANT IS, PLEASE, MY PAPA TO BE REST EASIER

MADE THEM I WILL

THE VIOLENCE COMES AS EASILY AS THE METACHAL

SHOK

THAP

I DECIDED NOT TO BECOME AN INSULTER BECAUSE I HATED SOMETHING MORE THAN THAT SOMETHING KINDER.

HAVE I REALLY GUSTARD, OR WAS I JUST DELUSING MYSELF? I WISHED THE AGENT THAT FELT SO GOOD NOW TO RELEASE?

THE SAFEST THING TO DO WOULD BE TO KILL THEM -- WHEN THEY RECOVER CONSCIOUSNESS, THEY'D ALERT THE FLOOR TO MY PRESENCE. BUT --

I'M NOT THAT FAR GONE YET.

NO ENTRY GRANTED
NO GUARDIAN
NO CARD
NO KEY
NO OTHER
NO OTHER

WOULD IF EITHER HAS A "GOOD GREEN GLIDE-ANCE" CARD...?

THIS SHOULD HOLD THEM A WHILE

AND I CAN USE THEIR SECURITY CARD TO DISARM ANY ELECTRONIC SCANNERS ALONG I STRAPLED AROUND THEM.

ENTER "M" AREA

LET'S TRY IT OUT ON --

DEHN. EIGHT SECURITY SENSORS MUST BE TIED IN TO LIGHTING SYS --

GOOD GOOD.

WHO -- WHAT -- IS THAT?

ZZZZZZ





I'M NOBODY'S
"PROJECT."

ARE YOU
A PRISONER
HERE?



NO, THIS IS
A DEPARTMENT
STORE DIS-
PLAY AND I'M
A RED-TAG
SPECIAL.

WHO-- WHO
THE DEVIL ARE
YOU? IF YOU'RE
NOT ONE OF
BROOK'S STORIES,
WHY THE HELL
ARE YOU?



I'M HERE TO FIND SOMETHING
AND THE DISGUISE IS SO THE OLIVE
DROUGHT FIND ME, AFTERWARD

MR... MY
NAME IS
ALLEN, BARRY
ALLEN.

BUT YOU--
HOW DID YOU--
DO WHAT YOU
WERE JUST
DOING?

I WAS AN INSULATED
SCIENTIST, WORKING ON
ABOUT A YEAR AGO, THERE
WAS THIS ELECTRICAL
STORM, A BOLT OF LIGHT-
NING STRUCK A BACK OF
CHEMICALS IN MY LAB

...AND WHEN
I REACHED
CONSCIOUSNESS,
I HAD THIS... IT
COULD BE ANY OF
I TRIED TO REAP
IT FROM THE
DECISION, BUT
THEY ROUNDED
UP, AND...

...THE NEXT
THING I KNOW, I'M
HERE, A TEST
SUBJECT, A MON-
STER IN A CAGE,
AS THEY TRY TO
DUPLICATE MY
POWERS

I DISCOVERED
I COULD... RECREATE
MY MOLECULAR STRUC-
TURE OUT--OR, DEAL
WITH SOLID MATTER,
BUT...



BAMP

...THAT BLOODY
BROOK BUILT THE
GLASS TO AUTOMAT-
ICALLY ADJUST TO
THE SAME FREQUENCY
AS MINE.

HE, WE TRIED TO,
MOOPLY OUR THINK-
ING, YOU SEE, AND
IF IT DOESN'T
TAKE... AS IT HADN'T
WITH ME...

...WE
DON'T
LEAVE
EVER.



DEAR GOD, I HAD A
LIFE, I HAD FRIENDS--
FAMILY... A WOMAN
I CARED FOR...

I SAW HER
FACE ALL THE TIME...
SEE HER SMILING...
NOT KNOWING
WHAT'S HAPPENED TO
ME... OR MAYBE
THEY TOLD HER I
DIED IN THE ACCIDENT...
SHE'S... KNOWING
ME...

I HAD A
LIFE, DAMMIT...



BARRY, THIS IS ALL
A LOT TO TAKE IN,
BUT HE... DON'T
WASTE ENOUGH TIME
FOR ME TO BE
INCREPACIDOUS

YOU SAY THE
PRISON... VIBRATES
AT THE SAME FRE-
QUENCY AS YOU WHEN
YOU TRY TO BREAK
IT.

WHAT IF YOU
TRIED TWO
DIFFERENT
FREQUENCIES
AT ONCE?

YOU MEAN, VIBRATING ONE HAND, SAY, AT ONE FREQUENCY, AND THE OTHER AT ANOTHER?

YOU'RE RIGHT... THAT MIGHT CONFUSE THE SENSORS. THEY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO ADAPT TO TWO FREQUENCIES AT ONCE... IT MIGHT TRICK THE SYSTEM AWAY!

YOU MEAN, VIBRATING ONE HAND, SAY, AT ONE FREQUENCY, AND THE OTHER AT ANOTHER?

YOU'RE RIGHT... THAT MIGHT CONFUSE THE SENSORS. THEY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO ADAPT TO TWO FREQUENCIES AT ONCE... IT MIGHT TRICK THE SYSTEM AWAY!

OR THE STAIN MIGHT TELL ME SOMETHING

ZZZZZZZZ

STAND BACK, LET ME TRY, AND I DON'T MAKE IT THROUGH.

THANKS FOR THE THOUGHT.



EVER
THAT WOULD BE
PREFERABLE TO
THIS KIND OF LIFE,
THOUGH.

STAND BACK, LET ME TRY, AND I DON'T MAKE IT THROUGH.

THANKS FOR THE THOUGHT.

STAND BACK, LET ME TRY, AND I DON'T MAKE IT THROUGH.

THANKS FOR THE THOUGHT.



MY GOD, WHAT IF I WERE
WRONG? WHAT IF THIS
KILLED HIM?



MY GOD, WHAT IF I WERE
WRONG? WHAT IF THIS
KILLED HIM?



YES!

YES!

YOU CAN
RIGHT?

TEAM
A LITTLE
WONDER, BUT
BETTER THAN
I WOULD HE
BEHIND THAT
HOLDY!
WONDER

WHAT THE
DEVIL...?

I CAN
VIBRATE
TOO! JUST
TELL ME
WHAT TO
DO!

NO! HE
SHOWED YOU
HOW TO GET
OUT--HE CAN
BACH ME!

SEE T I
CAN VIBRATE
TOO. JUST
TELL
ME WHAT I
CAN...
HOW FAST...

I... I'M
GETTING IT
I'M ALMOST
THERE.

OH, DON'T
TURN.
WHO ARE...
HELP
HE'LL
ME NEXT!

OH, GOD
WE VOICE
HIM ARE.
GO BACK
TO SLEEP,
TERRY...

TERRY--
NO-- YOU'LL
HURT YOUR
SELF AGAIN.
DON'T...

I CAN
DO IT.



EYAHHHH!

ZWASH!

TERRY!







YOU'LL
FEEL ABOVE,
HEAVEN!

FOR THE
IRRADIATED SUB-
JECTS. IF YOU THINK
THE SUBJECTS WERE
HORRIBLE, YOU
SHOULD SEE SOME
OF THESE BORN
BASTARDS...

I'LL TRY TO
FREE AS MANY AS
I CAN, AT LEAST
THOSE WHO CAN
SURVIVE WITHOUT
LIFE-SUPPORT
SYS...

UNNNH!

KRAK

HAAT...??





FLOURSHH!



SHE'S DYING -- SHE CAN'T BREATHE! CAN WE GET HER INTO ANOTHER TANK?

NO -- NOT WITHOUT BREAKING THE GLASS ON THERE, TOO.

THE ACCESS PORTS ARE CONTROLLED FROM BRUCE'S LAB! DESTROY IT!



MURDERING
WITCH!

YOU DON'T NEED
TO DO THAT! I WAS
THE ONE WHO ACCUSED
NOT HER -- SHE'S
INNOCENT!

SO SHE WAS, AND
SOMETIMES, THE MOST
EFFECTIVE DEFENSE...
THE MOST PROFOUND
RETRIBUTION...

... IS PUNISHING
AN INNOCENT.

YOU
VICIOUS
BITCH!

YOU WANT
PUNISHMENT?
I'LL GIVE YOU
PUNISHMENT!

I'LL SHOW YOU
RETRIBUTION THAT
MAKES THE OLD
TESTAMENT LOOK
LIKE A FAIRY
TALE

SEA BRUDED
DRAGON, TIGER
SEA!

3 DUNN!

SLAM



IMPURE
FOUL.

TO THINK I WAS
ONCE LIKE YOU, GODLESS
AND FEARING.

YOU BECOME
SO MUCH STRONGER
WHEN YOU STOP
FEARING ME. NOW, THE POWER
YOU FEEL, SO
LIBERATING.

SHE'S FORGOTTEN
ALL ABOUT ME.
DOUBTLESS, THERE'S
I'M NO THREAT.

MAYBE I'M NOT,
MAGGIE... BUT THERE'S
WHAT CHANCE DO
I HAVE AGAINST
ALL THAT? WHAT
SPECIAL POWERS
DO I POSSESS?

I'VE TRIED TO
CONVINCE THE DOCTOR
TO LET ME USE MY
GODSIGHT TO CONVERT
YOU, BUT HE'S AFRAID
MY POWERS AREN'T
SUBTLE ENOUGH...
AFRAID YOU MIGHT
BE DAMAGED.

BUT I
DON'T ARE
THE DOCTOR
AROUND, DO
YOU?

SHE SAYS I HAVE A TOUCH AND
FEELS WITHOUT KNOWING
THE MENTATIONS ALOUD.

MAYBE... MAYBE

GOD ENDED
THEIR...

...THAT EDNA
RUBY KAREN DR.
SCHATZBER...

...WHAT EDNA
DR. RUBY KAREN...

THEY WERE QUITE
THE PURPOSE. I'D
INTEND THEM
WAS BELIEVE
AND

BUT THEY DID USED
TO STONE WITCHES IN
THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY.

...DIDN'T THEY?



BARRY BARRY
HAVE I EVER CREATED
YOU BARRY HAVE I?

SAVE IT
ETHEL.

PERHAPS I
HAVEN'T SAID THIS
AS MUCH AS I
SHOULD, BUT YOU'VE
ALWAYS BEEN SPECIAL
TO ME, BARRY. YOUR
COURAGE, YOUR
SENSE OF SELF.

I ADMIRE
THOSE THINGS IN
YOU, BARRY.

ZWOOSH!

YOU'RE
DEAD.

WOULD I IN
ANYWAY YOU
FEEL THAT WAY BARRY?

TELLY
SORRY--

YES,
I'M SURE
YOU--

TEK

WHAT--
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
TO--

OH, GOD
NO, NO--

ETHEL,
CALM
YOU--

PWOOSH!

228





THIS IS MASTEMAN, UP UNTIL RECENTLY, A CHIMPANZEE. HIS STRUCTURE TO AN OLD TYPE OF POLYMERIZATION HAS TURNED HIM INTO A KIND OF CLAYFACE, AS YOU CAN SEE

AND AS I'M SURE YOU'VE FIGURED OUT I'M THE BADGEL... DR. SAUL ROELL, I OVERSEE PROJECT GREEN HILL

AND YOU ARE -- ?

GO TO HELL, IF YOU'RE NOT ALREADY THERE --

COMMON!

HWAK

NO MATTER -- WE'LL TAKE CARE THAT MASTEMAN REACHES MY LAB, AND IF YOU STILL WON'T TALK, WE'LL SEE IF ONE OF THE NEW SUBJECTS CAN DO ANYTHING OUT OF YOU

SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY LITTLE MENAGERIE?

I CAN'T SAY WHAT SO MANY PERSONNEL HAVE GOTTEN UP IN THE LAST FEW YEARS, BUT I THINK I MAY KNOW SOME

I'VE ISOLATED A -- "PAIN-GENE" WHICH SEEMS TO GIVE CERTAIN PEOPLE A PREDISPOSITION FOR PERSONAL ABUSE --



THIS EXPLAINS WHY SO MANY OF OUR EARLY EXPERIMENTS WENT OFF WITH UNDESIRABLE EFFECT

IT FREQUENTLY TAKES A SOME SORT OF STIMULUS TO ACTIVATE THIS GENE, AND AFTER SOME UNFORTUNATE ROAD BLOCK, WE'RE TRYING TO EXACTLY REPLICATE THE STIMULUS RESULTS WE WERE

ROELL -- WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT YOUR NAME -- IT'S BEMOAN, ISN'T IT?

JEWS ARE PERSECUTED IN AMERICA -- THE BROTHERHOOD STRICTLY CONTROLLED HAS SUCH ALLEGIANCE TO THE STATE, TO THE HOLY SUITE?

ONCE WE'VE DONE THAT, THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE A VERTICAL JUMP, DILUTION OF PARADIGMS TO SPREAD THE HOLY WORD TO EUROPE -- AMERICA -- ASIA --

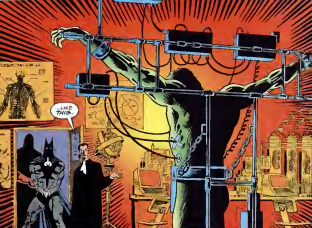
THE STATE HAD BEEN VERY GOOD TO ME BEFORE THEY APPROACHED ME. I WAS INVOLVED IN A LOT, DEATH AND EXTREME PAIN, A MUFFLED TRANSMISSION -- EXPERIMENTS I HAD DONE AFTER THE GOVERNMENT OFFERED ME THIS POSITION



THERE'S AN ATTEMPT TO SHAPING THE MINDS AND BODIES OF HUMAN BEINGS -- A REBELLING GATE FACTOR IN MAKING THEM CHANGE INTO WHAT YOU WISH THEM TO BE

EXCEPT THERE'LL ALWAYS BE PEOPLE LIKE GARY -- PEOPLE WHO YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO CONVERT -- PEOPLE WHO WILL FIGHT YOU

PARTIAL AND I'LL BE WITH YOU



LIKE THIS.



A GOD-FRADING COUPLE IS KISSING ROUND HIM, AND TURNED HIS DIRT TO US...



MOST POWERFUL SPECIMEN I'VE EVER STUDIED -- AN ANATOMICAL ASSEMBLY OF ABILITIES. THE CLOSE HE GOT, THE MORE POWERFUL. WE'VE GOT TO RECOVER.



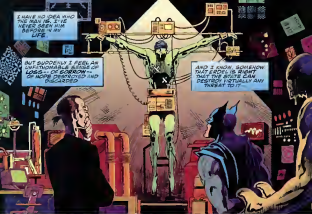
AND THE MORE MISERABLE. HE KNEW MORE AND MORE ABOUT TO CONTROL, AND FINALLY WE HAD TO ELIMINATE THE THREAT.

IT WAS A BIT OF RADIOACTIVE DEBRIS WE DISCOVERED ON THE SPECIMEN HE WAS FOUND IN.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHO
THE MAN IS. I'VE
NEVER SEEN HIM
BEFORE IN MY
LIFE.

BUT SUDDENLY I FEEL AN
UNCOMFORTABLE SENSE OF
LOSS... OF GRIEVING...
OF MORE PROTECTED AND
ENCAJINED.

AND I KNOW, SOMEHOW
THAT SPEED IS RIGHT
THAT THE WHITE CAN
DESTROY ACTUALLY ANY
THREAT TO IT.



-- THAT IT HAD ALREADY
DESTROYED WHAT WAS
HAVE BEEN -- AND I
HAVE NO IDEA HOW I
KNOW THIS, BUT I DO --



-- THIS WORLD'S
GREATEST
HOPE

BORN. FATHER, MOTHER,
AND HIS BROTHERS.
BARRY: I AM I KNOW
FOR LEARN THIS AN HOUR
BUT WHEN I WILL BE
BROTHER. AND WITH THIS
OLD MAN, WHO I
HONOR, AND I CAN'T
LET WHY.



A DRINK MEDICAL. A
BLIND DOCTOR. AN
EXPLAINED BOY. ALL THE
MURDER. ALL THE
BUTCHERY. IT'S ALL
ENLIGHTENED. AT THIS
INSTANT, IN ONE MAN



DAMN
YOU!

DAMN YOU
TO HELL!

SPLATT

HAGEN: DON'T
OCCUPY HIM TOO
MUCH -- I'VE
NEED SOME
CELL SAMPLES
AND DOES BLE
CLOWING

I KNEW
YOU HAD TO
KILL A POWER
I KNEW IT



HE TALKS ABOUT POWERS. THE WAY SOME PEOPLE TALK ABOUT SEX.



IS THAT IT? IS ALL THIS SOME SORT OF... INTELLECTUAL PASTIME FOR YOU?



MAYBE HE'S RIGHT. MAYBE I DO HAVE A POWER, OF A SORT.

BZZZZZZZZZZ

ANGER.
RAGE.

FWAK

I'VE SPENT HALF MY LIFE TRYING TO DENY IT... WHEN PERHAPS I SHOULD HAVE BEEN EMBRACING IT.

BUT RAGE IS ONLY CARRIES YOU SO FAR.



RAGE BY ITSELF GETS YOU NOWHERE...

BUT RAGE CHANNELLED BY REASON... BY INTELLECT.





STAR CHAMBER.

IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY THE COURT OF STAR CHAMBER BECAME THE MOST POWERFUL JUDICIAL BRANCH IN ENGLAND. AS CHARLES I USED IT TO ENFORCE HIS OWN UNLAWFUL PROCLAMATIONS.

IT WAS ABOLISHED IN 1541 AFTER OPPORTUNITY BY OUR FURTHER ANCESTORS WHO LATER ADAPTED IT FOR THEIR OWN PURPOSES. A CENTURY LATER.

FOR CENTURIES IT HAS BEEN A SHADOW ARM OF GOVERNMENT, PROTECTING SECRET PROJECTS ON THOSE THE PUBLIC, OF COURSE, SHOULD NEVER KNOW ABOUT.

THIS IS WHERE MY PARENTS LIVED AND DIED.

THIS IS WHERE THEY WERE —

MAY I HELP YOU?

I — I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS ANYONE HERE —

COURTIER

I GIVE YOU COMPREHENSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO HAVE PENETRATED THIS FAR INTO CATHEDRAL.

PERHAPS YOU MIGHT TELL ME THE REASON FOR YOUR PRESENCE HERE?

DAMN IT, HE CAN PRESS AN ALARM FASTER THAN I CAN GET TO HIM.

PLAY FOR TIME —

I'M — LOOKING FOR RECORDS OF A CERTAIN PROCEEDING.

I'VE REMAINED HERE FOR OVER 400 YEARS. PERHAPS I MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU.



A... CONSOLE
WAS SENTENCED
TO DEATH HERE
TWENTY YEARS
AGO.

HAVE BEEN
SENTENCED TO
DEATH HERE.
CAN YOU GIVE
ME A NAME?

I'D RATHER
NOT, JUST
NOW.

I'M NOT
SURPRISED.



AND WHAT
THE DEATH
DOES THAT
MEANT?

IT MEANS
WHAT IT
MEANS.

ARE YOU FAMILIAR
WITH THE OLD TRADITION
OF FINESS SQUADS... NOW
ONE GUN OUT OF THE ENTIRE
SQUAD IS MALFUNCTIONED.

SO ANY MAN ON THE
FINESS LINE CAN THINK THAT
PERHAPS HE WON'T FIRE
THE SHOT THAT KILLED
THE VICTIM?



A BOMBING
REACTION
PREVALE IN
THE STATE
CHAMBER.

WHEN BOMBING
A DEPENDANT IS
CHARGED WITH A
CAPITAL CRIME...



THE TWELVE
HAS STATED ON
THE TERNAL VOTE
ON HIS GUILT OR
INNOCENCE BY
SECRET BALLOT.

NO ONE
KNOWS WHO VOTED
FOR ACCUSATION
AND WHO FOR
CONVICTION.

NOR ARE
THERE ANY
RECORDS OF
EACH INDIVIDUAL
VOTE.

THE FACE OF
JUSTICE, THEREFORE
HAS THE ATTRIBUTES
OF NO ONE MAN, OR
GROUP OF MEN...

BUT OF THE
CHAMBER IS A
WHOLE IT SERVES TO
REMAIND US THAT INDIVIDUAL
USUALLY WE DO NOT HAVE THE
RIGHT OR POWER TO DECIDE
HUMAN DEATH... IT'S TO
ENTER OF THEM HAVE
SAY PREOCCUPATIONS.

DOES THAT
ANSWER YOUR
QUESTIONS?



C TAKE IT THESE
PEOPLE WERE
CLOSED TO YOU?

AND YOU'VE
RECENTLY COME
DEARING THOSE
RESPONSIBLE FOR
THEIR DEATHS?

YOU'VE
DONE THIS
BEFORE.

NOT
LIKE THIS,
NO.



THE NAMES
DON'T MATTER IN
ANY EVENT. YOU
WANT TO KNOW WHO'S
RESPONSIBLE?

THE
UNKNOWN OF
EVERYONE, AND
NO ONE.







"AND I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE; HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE HAVE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE."

"AND WHOEVERS LETH AND BELIEVETH IN ME SHALL BECOME LIFE."

WHEN GORDON FIRST CAME TO ME, I WAS AWARE THAT WHAT HE TOLD ME HAD UN-VALUED THE PATH I'D CHOSEN — THE PATH I'D FOUND.



BUT IT DIDN'T.

HONOR WAS RIGHT. THE WORDS ARE STILL TRUE. AND I AM TRUE TO THE WORDS. THE PATH I FOLLOW IS A RIGHTeous ONE.

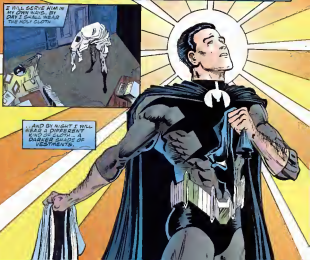


GOD IS NOT THE STATE AND THE STATE IS NOT GOD.

DEFENSE OF GOD'S SELF-STYLED INTERPRETERS IS NOT DENIAL OF GOD.



I WILL GET HIM IN MY OWN HAND. BY DAY I SHALL WEAR THE HOLY CLOTH.



...AND BY NIGHT I WILL WEAR A DIFFERENT KIND OF CLOTH — A DARKER SHADE OF VESTMENTS.



THESE MAY BE NO ORGANIZED RESISTANCE, BUT THANK HEAVEN THERE ARE STILL MEN AND WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE WHO WILL RISK ARREST AND EXECUTION TO BUILD THE WEAPONS I WILL NEED IN MY FIGHT.

I CAN DO NO LESS.



LIKE ME, THEY HAVE NO SPECIAL POWERS... BUT PERHAPS THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT IS NEEDED: A MAN WITH NO POWERS AND NO SPECIAL POWERS AGAINST A REGIME THAT HAS LONG SINCE LOST SIGHT OF THE TENETS WE DIED FOR.

WELL, I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHAT NIGHT WAS APPROPRIATE ON THAT NIGHT TWENTY YEARS AGO, THERE WAS ONLY A DIFFERENT STORY, A HAPPIER ONE

OR IF, INSTEAD OF BEING KILLED BY THE STATE...

PAF

MOTHER AND FATHER TOOKLY HAD BEEN THE VICTIMS OF A SAVAGE, senseless STREET CRIME.

PERHAPS EVERYTHING WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT



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This is a world
where being different
is the greatest
crime...
where respectability
hides terrible
secrets...
where vengeance
may be the only choice
a man has.

**BATMAN:
HOLY TERROR**

